

Date:

'Intelligence Juggling' Cited

Missile Gap Grows, Symington Charges

Compiled From Press Dispatches

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.—Sen. Stuart Symington (D., Mo.) has accused the Eisenhower Administration of juggling intelligence data "so the budget books may be balanced."

"The facts are that a very substantial missile gap does exist and the Administration apparently is going to permit this gap to increase," he declared yesterday.

Symington, a former Air Force Secretary and long-time foe of Administration military policy, contended the U. S. deficit in intercontinental missiles has widened to more than the 3-1 edge he said defense officials conceded to Russia last year. Counting shorter range rockets, he said, "the Soviet advantage would be greater."

"I charge this Administration with using intelligence information in such a manner that the American people have been given an inaccurate picture of what is necessary for our national defense," the Missouri Senator said.

Although not an avowed candidate, Symington is available for the Democratic Presidential nomination this year.

In this connection, he said he was aware he would be accused of political motives in his criticism of the Pentagon and the White House. Such accusations, he said, "would be made by 'those who prefer to conceal the facts, and by others who do not know the facts.'"

Symington fired his broadside at a news conference and in the Senate—only a day after President Eisenhower and Central Intelligence chief Allen W. Dulles had defended the new estimates of relative U. S.-Russian strength.

The President and Dulles said the new evaluations are based on better information than was available about the Russian military program in the past.

Senate Democratic Leader Lyndon B. Johnson of Texas said he agreed with Mr. Eisenhower that admirable progress has been

made by this country in space work. But Johnson added: "My feeling is that we could have gone much farther and faster than we have."

See 100 + 1000

3-1

2 8.

SYMINGTON